

INL News Release
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INL to mentor local engineering/environmental company

The U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) Idaho National Laboratory (INL) recently signed a Mentor-Protégé Agreement with Portage Environmental, Inc., Idaho Falls.

The agreement seeks to foster long-term business relationships between small businesses and DOE prime contractors and increase the small business's technical and business capabilities for performing future work for INL, DOE, other federal agencies and the private sector. This is the second mentoring agreement for Battelle Energy Alliance (BEA), which manages INL for DOE.

According to INL Small Business Officer Dana Storms, "BEA believes Portage's core competencies align with Idaho National Laboratory's vision of creating a world class nuclear laboratory. This program will provide BEA the opportunity to foster developmental assistance in nuclear operations, which is consistent with the vision and initiatives at INL."

Under the agreement, approved by the DOE's Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization, Portage will build upon its existing experience and expertise at INL. Portage is a growing Native American-owned engineering and environmental services firm based in Idaho and its expertise has historically centered on engineering services, environmental cleanup and permitting. INL will help Portage enhance and expand its capabilities in the areas of nuclear operations, project management and corporate development.

Mike Spry, president of Portage, commented that "Portage is extremely excited about this mentor-protégé agreement. It provides a great opportunity to build upon our long history with INL while advancing the laboratory's long-term missions. It allows us to grow as a business and continue to support the laboratory as it evolves. Portage is looking forward to working closely with BEA as they create a world class nuclear laboratory."

Portage also has offices in Montana, New Mexico, Texas and Washington, and supports projects located throughout the U.S. Portage services include environmental engineering; waste management; and environmental assessment, planning, permitting and monitoring. Customers include the Idaho Cleanup Project; the Los Alamos National Laboratory; the U.S. Air Force Center for Environmental Excellence; the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; Idaho and Montana Departments of Environmental Quality; and other state, federal and tribal agencies.

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